

As a major manufacturer in the telecommunications industry, Advanced Fibre Communications, Inc. is in strong support of SBC Pacific Bell's entry into the long distance market. We urge you to approve the application as scheduled and without any further delay.

AFC provides products and services that expand voice and broadband services to all corners of the globe and our company focuses on optimizing capital investments, minimizing complexities with deployment and protecting technology investments. These tenants of AFC are what help drive the telecommunications industry in deployment of new technology and products and services.

By allowing SBC Pacific Bell to enter the long distance market, the competition will force telecom providers to offer lower prices and promotional incentives.

Since March 1998 when SBC Pacific Bell initially filed their request to enter long distance, they have spent hundreds of millions of dollars to open the local market to competition, upgrade the company's network and systems, and fulfill the requirements of the 1996 Federal Telecom Act.

SBC Pacific Bell has proven itself time and time again by investing back into their business and contributing to California's economy. Additionally, they have fulfilled the necessary requirements to enter into the long distance business.

Please don't delay this process any further and vote to approve SBC Pacific Bell's application to enter the California long distance market when you meet.

Sincerely,

John Schofield  
Chairman, President & CEO